62D CONGRESS
3d Session

SENATE

DOCUMENT
No. 960

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Message from the President of the United States transmitting the Report of the Commission of Fine Arts for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912

DECEMBER 3, 1912.—Read, referred to the Committee on the Library, and ordered to be printed, with accompanying illustrations

WASHINGTON
1912

DESIGN FOR A LINCOLN MEMORIAL ON THE POTOMAC PARK SITE IN WASHINGTON, BY MR. HENRY BACON, ARCHITECT, OF NEW YORK CITY. APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS AND RECOMMENDED TO CONGRESS FOR ACCEPTANCE BY THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL COMMISSION.

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith for the information of the Congress the Report of the Commission of Fine Arts for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912.

WM. H. TAFT.

The WHITE HOUSE,
December 3, 1912.

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PART I

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

REPORT OF
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November 15, 1912.*

THE PRESIDENT.

SIR: The Commission of Fine Arts has the honor to submit the following report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912:

The commission was established by act of Congress approved May 17, 1910. The members were appointed by the President of the United States, their commissions bearing the date of June 15, 1910, as follows:

Daniel H. Burnham, chairman, of Illinois.
Frederick Law Olmsted, of Massachusetts.
Thomas Hastings, of New York.
Daniel Chester French, of Massachusetts.
Francis D. Millet, of New York.
Cass Gilbert, of New York.
Charles Moore, of Michigan.

Col. Spencer Cosby, United States Army, officer in charge of public buildings and grounds, was appointed secretary of the commission by the President, under commission dated June 15, 1910.

On returning from a visit of inspection of the American Academy in Rome, of which institution he was the secretary and executive head, Mr. Millet perished in the disaster which overtook the steamship *Titanic* on April 15, 1912. At the organization of the commission Mr. Millet was elected vice chairman. On him devolved much of the work of organization. He brought to the task wide experience, a capacity for handling details, and a soundness of

judgment, which were beyond value; and he contributed largely to the effectiveness of the commission during its first year. The members of the commission took part in a memorial meeting at the New National Museum on the evening of May 10, at which the services Mr. Millet rendered to art in the United States were set forth, and tributes were paid to his memory.[1] Subsequently personal friends raised a fund for the erection of a joint memorial to Mr. Millet and his friend and companion, Maj. Archibald W. Butt, United States Army, who perished in the same disaster. The memorial is to take the form of a fountain, to be designed by Mr. French and Mr. Hastings of this commission, and, by joint resolution of Congress, to be located on public grounds of the United States, in the city of Washington.[2]

The death of Mr. Millet was closely followed by that of the chairman, Daniel H. Burnham, who died at Heidelburg, Germany, on June 1, 1912. The full extent of Mr. Burnham's services to the ideas and ideals for which the commission stands can not yet be estimated; time alone can reveal in completed work the aims and aspirations which he developed. In the work of city planning and city building in this country he had a large and an original part; and his services to this Nation, as well as to many of its leading cities, must become a part of our and their history. In shaping its work, in securing harmony in its deliberations, and in carrying its decisions to an effective conclusion, his personality accomplished results that have given the commission a standing both in Congress and with the public.[3]

The President appointed Edwin H. Blashfield, of New York, under commission dated May 31, 1912, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Millet's death. The vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Burnham had not been filled at the end of the fiscal year.[4]

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[1] The action of the commission is given on p. 30.

[2] Public resolution No. 59, 1912.

[3] The action of the commission is given on p. 29.

[4] The President, under commission dated July 5, 1912, appointed Mr. Peirce Anderson, of Illinois, to fill the vacancy created by the death of Mr. Burnham, and on the same date appointed Mr. Daniel C. French as chairman of the commission to succeed Mr. Burnham. Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted was elected vice chairman.

MAINTENANCE.

The sundry civil act, approved March 4, 1911, made an appropriation of $8,800 for the expenses of the commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912, in the following words:

> COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS: To meet the expenses made necessary by the act approved May seventeenth, nineteen hundred and ten, entitled "An act establishing a Commission of Fine Arts," the purchase of periodicals, maps, and books of reference, and necessary office furniture and fixtures, to be disbursed on vouchers approved by the commission, by the officer in charge of public buildings and grounds, who shall be the secretary and shall act as the executive officer of said commission, eight thousand eight hundred dollars.

The members serve without compensation, being reimbursed only for expenses incurred by them in traveling on the official business of the commission. The only permanent paid employees of the commission are a clerk and a messenger. A draftsman was employed for a short time during the year when such services were necessary. The secretary receives no additional compensation for his services.

The amount appropriated for the expenses of the commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913, is $5,000.

JURISDICTION.

The act of May 17, 1910, creating the commission, provides that—

> It shall be the duty of such commission to advise upon the location of statues, fountains, and monuments in the public squares, streets, and parks in the District of Columbia, and upon the selection of models for statues, fountains, and monuments erected under the authority of the United States and upon the selection of artists for the execution of same. It shall be the duty of the officers charged by law to determine such questions in each case to call for such advice. The foregoing provisions of this act shall not apply to the Capitol Building of the United States and the building of the Library of Congress. The commission shall also advise generally upon questions of art when required to do so by the President, or by any committee of either House of Congress.

In the opinions of the Judge Advocate General of the War Department dated June 9, 1910, and June 11, 1910, it was held that, "in so far as statues, fountains, and monuments ar econcerned, the act is restricted in its operations to the District of Columbia; and that if monuments are erected elsewhere in the United States,

and the opinion of the commission is desired, its action may be invoked by the President or by a committee of Congress."

By Executive order dated October 25, 1910, the President directed that "plans for no public building to be erected in the District of Columbia for the General Government shall be hereafter finally approved by the officer duly authorized until after such officer shall have submitted the plans to the Commission of Fine Arts created under the act of Congress of May 17, 1910, for its comment and advice."

On February 2, 1912, the President directed the commission to advise the officer in charge of public buildings and grounds in regard to the improvement of any of the grounds in the city of Washington under his charge whenever such advice is asked for by that officer.

During the fiscal year, the commission has reported upon matters referred to it by the President, by committees of Congress, by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, by the officer in charge of public buildings and grounds, and by other officials charged by law to determine certain questions of art. The tendency is to an increase both in the number of matters submitted and in the extent to which the advice of the commission is called for. The plans or models of nearly all monuments, wherever located, toward the erection of which the Government has made appropriation have been submitted to the commission for advice. In the growing desire of Government officials to submit to the commission questions of art is to be found the justification of the organic act.

In all cases it has been the aim of the commission to accomplish results by advising with commissions and with the artists individually, suggesting modifications or changes wherever desirable. The spirit has been one of cooperation rather than of simple criticism.

In a number of instances the commission has, as a matter of courtesy, complied with the request of public officers for advice on questions of art upon which the law did not require it to act.

NEED OF SPACE FOR EXHIBITION OF MODELS AND DRAWINGS.

The commission recognizes a great need for proper exhibition space in which models or drawings submitted in competition for public monuments or structures can satisfactorily be displayed in the city of Washington. Models submitted in various competitions held under the War Department have had to be set up for inspection in the public corridors of the State, War and Navy Department Building. The space available is not adapted to the purpose, and the commission has made its inspections under difficulties. When many drawings or sketches were submitted (more than 200 drawings in the Perry Memorial competition, and an extensive exhibition of the designs for the Lincoln Memorial) rooms for the display were procured through the courtesy of the Smithsonian authorities in the New National Museum Building. Space in that building may not always be available.

Additional space is needed also for the proper storage of many valuable designs, plans, and drawings in the custody of the commission.

WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

The commission held eight formal meetings during the year. These meetings were held in its office in the Lemon Building, 1729 New York Avenue NW., Washington, D. C.

The matters considered by the commission during the year numbered 41, of which two were brought over from last year; 2 were not disposed of before July 1, 1912, and were carried over into the next year; and 2 were returned without action, the commission being without authority in each case; making a total of 37 submissions considered and disposed of during the year. The total amount of money involved in the cases passed upon approximates $7,000,000.

Each submission was acted upon by the commission as a whole; but whenever considered desirable a committee was appointed to expedite and facilitate action. Examinations were made, both in Washington and elsewhere either by the commission, by a duly

appointed committee, or by individual members of models for proposed statues, and of proposed sites for public monuments and other structures. Frequent conferences were held with officers of the Government, architects, sculptors, and others interested in the submissions.

RELATIONS WITH THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

As was intended by Congress when the commission was established, the relations between the executive officers of the District of Columbia and this commission have been particularly intimate, extending to all matters arising in relation to the artistic development of the city of Washington. The variety and extent of these matters may be known from the reports and correspondence printed herewith.[1]

In discussing with the Commissioners of the District of Columbia questions as to the style of architecture to be used in the public buildings erected under their authority, the commission took the ground that a uniform style should be adopted and adhered to in the construction of school buildings, engine houses, and similar public structures. The commission suggested that the traditions and precedents of the colonial period—precedents which prevailed for some time after the establishment of the seat of Government in Washington—afford a basis for a style sufficiently flexible to answer the needs of to-day while at the same time giving that historic unity and continuity to be desired in a capital city.

SUBMISSIONS.

The matters considered by the commission during the year consisted of the following submissions:

STATUES, FOUNTAINS, AND MONUMENTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

John Paul Jones Monument.

A monument erected during the year by the United States to the memory of John Paul Jones, in the Seventeenth Street vista, in

[1] See pages 38–43.

Potomac Park. (Two submissions.) The commission gave advice in regard to the layout for the planting proposed around the monument, and also approved the bronze statue of John Paul Jones.

Grant Memorial at the head of the Mall near the Capitol.

The advice of the commission was asked regarding the approval and acceptance of the bronze casting of the Artillery group for the memorial, designed by Henry Merwin Shrady. This group has been placed on its pedestal at the south end of the monument.

Memorial Fountain.

The opinion of the commission was given upon the design for a memorial bubble fountain proposed to be located either in Lafayette or Farragut Park.

Barry Monument.

A monument to be erected in Franklin Park by the United States to the memory of Commodore John Barry. (Four submissions.) The commission passed upon several designs for the figure of Victory to be placed on the front of the pedestal of the monument, and also upon the final sketch model of the statue and pedestal and upon the architectural setting proposed for the monument.

Buffaloes for the new Q Street Bridge.

The commission passed upon the two designs of the buffaloes by A. Phimister Proctor. Four bronze buffaloes are to be placed upon the newels of the bridge to be constructed across Rock Creek at Q Street NW.

The Lincoln Memorial.

A memorial to be erected by the United States in the city of Washington to the memory of Abraham Lincoln. The act of Congress providing for the memorial specifically authorizes the Lincoln Memorial Commission "to avail itself of the services of the Commission of Fine Arts."

Report of Commission of Fine Arts

During the year the attention of the commission was engaged largely with the questions submitted by the Lincoln Memorial Commission. On March 4, 1911, that commission asked the Commission of Fine Arts for suggestions as to the location, plans, and designs for the proposed memorial, and also as to the best method of selecting sculptors and architects to make the designs and execute the work. After long and careful study of the matter the commission, on July 17, 1911, rendered the following report:

JULY 17, 1911.

The LINCOLN MEMORIAL COMMISSION:

SIRS: The Commission of Fine Arts, as directed by the Lincoln Memorial Commission in a resolution adopted March 4, 1911, as follows:

Resolved, That the Commission of Fine Arts be required to make suggestions to this memorial commission as to the locations, plans, and designs for a monument or memorial in the city of Washington, and that it give its advice as to the following locations: The axis of Delaware Avenue at some point between the Capitol and the Union Station Plaza; the axis of the new avenue authorized to be constructed by the act of June 25, 1910, between the Peace Monument and the Union Station Plaza; some portion of the land for enlarging the Capitol grounds authorized to be acquired by the act of June 25, 1910; the site in the Potomac Park recommended in the report of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia (57th Cong., 1st sess., No. 166) on "The improvement of the park system of the District of Columbia;" and also any other location which they may deem suitable; and that the Commission of Fine Arts be required to make suggestions in connection with each location as to a memorial suited to it, and within the limit of cost authorized by the act; and also the best method of selecting the artists, sculptors, and architects to make the proper designs and to execute them—

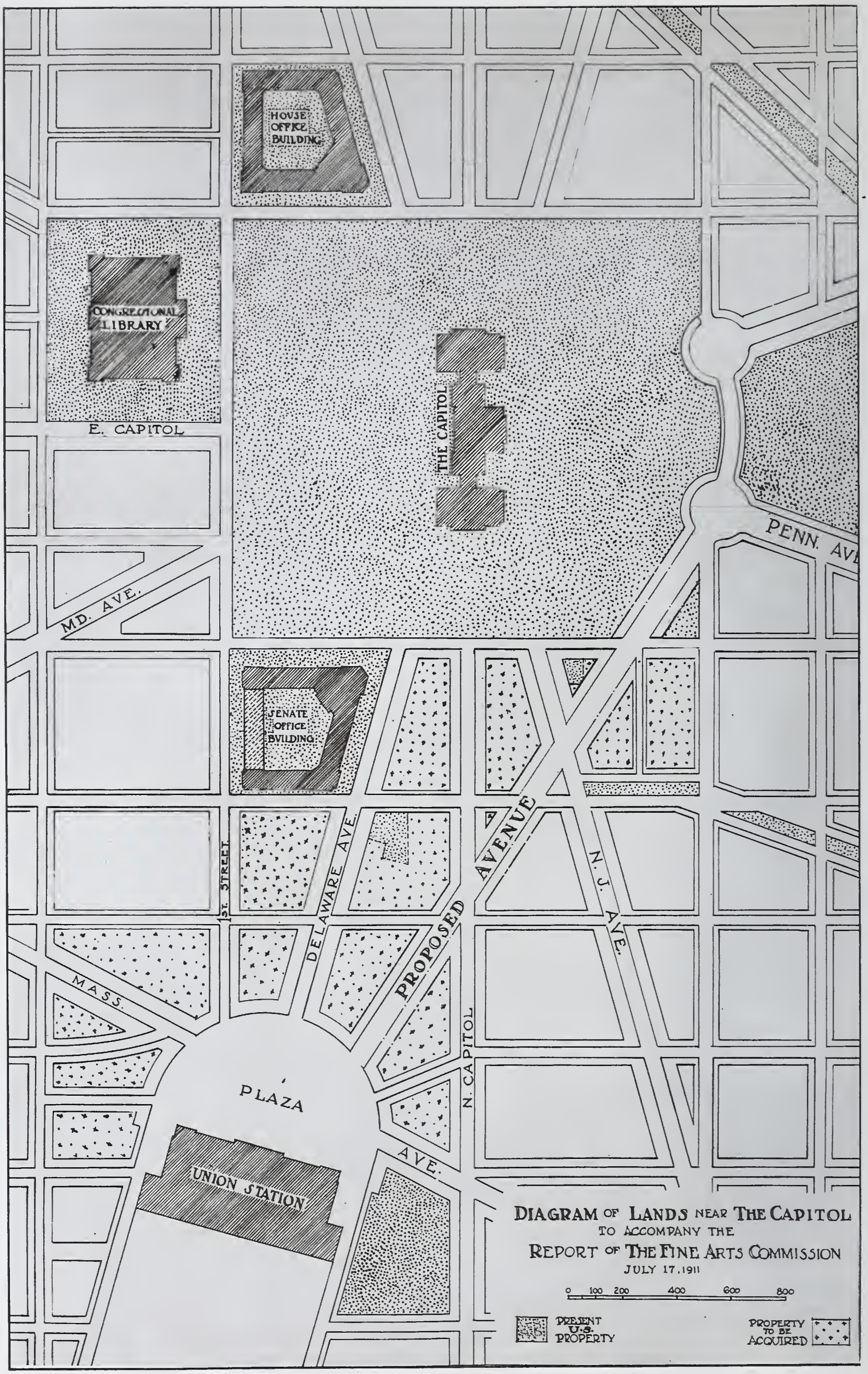
respectfully report:

The act of Congress entitled "An act to provide a commission to secure plans and designs for a monument or memorial to the memory of Abraham Lincoln," approved February 9, 1911, authorizes an expenditure of $2,000,000, the largest amount yet appropriated by this Government for a similar purpose. This sum suggests that the memorial is intended to be a structure of large size. The popular idea of a memorial to Lincoln will be satisfied only with a design which combines grandeur with beauty. Assuming that this memorial must be a large one, there are few sites on which it can be placed successfully; for it is important that a large monument shall stand where its environment can be specially designed to harmonize with it and where the design need not be controlled or even influenced by existing surroundings.

We consider the sites mentioned in the above resolution and such other sites as are related thereto.

SITES NEAR THE CAPITOL.

In whatever improvements may be made on Capitol Hill it is necessary to maintain unity throughout the entire group of structures, whether they be buildings or monuments. The same restraint that was exercised in harmonizing the Senate and House wings with the original building and in subordinating the new office


HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY
E. CAPITOL
THE CAPITOL
PENN. AVE.
MD. AVE.
SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
1ST. STREET
DELAWARE AVE.
PROPOSED AVENUE
N. J. AVE.
MASS.
PLAZA
N. CAPITOL
AVE.
UNION STATION
DIAGRAM OF LANDS NEAR THE CAPITOL
TO ACCOMPANY THE
REPORT OF THE FINE ARTS COMMISSION
JULY 17, 1911
0 100 200 400 600 800
PRESENT U.S. PROPERTY
PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED

buildings and the Union Station to the Capitol itself should prevail in any work done hereafter. To introduce into the present orderly plan any structure which can not be brought into organic relations with the general scheme would inevitably create discord. Not only would the new structure suffer, but the effect of each of the other buildings in the group would be impaired.

THE AXIS OF DELAWARE AVENUE.

This avenue is one of the great radial thoroughfares converging on the Dome of the Capitol. Along it the visitor to Washington is greeted by a view of the Capitol of the United States, the most impressive of all our public buildings. This view should not be obstructed, nor should attention be distracted by any large object introduced into the vista.

AXIS OF THE NEW AVENUE.

Located at any point along the projected diagonal avenue extending from the Peace Monument to the Union Station, any great structure would be brought into such peculiar angular relationship with the Capitol in one direction and with the Union Station in another as to produce with those buildings a discordant and confusing group.

SOME PORTION OF THE LAND FOR ENLARGING THE CAPITOL GROUNDS.

Substantially the same argument above used applies also to this area. It would be possible to erect on lands north of the Capitol and facing Delaware Avenue a building or other structure, and call it a memorial to Abraham Lincoln; but any such structure located on one side of Delaware Avenue would call for a similar one on the opposite side, in order to retain the sense of balance; and this of itself would destroy the idea of preeminence and individuality.

THE TERRITORY EAST OF THE CAPITOL.

Reference to the plan submitted herewith shows that a monument of large size should not be placed on the axis of East Capitol Street, thereby obstructing the view of the Dome from this thoroughfare; nor could it be placed on one side of the street or of the Capitol Grounds without creating a disturbance among the Capitol, the Congressional Library, and the Senate Office Building.

THE TERRITORY SOUTH OF THE CAPITOL.

The block bounded by B and C Streets and South Capitol Street might be used as a site. In this case the memorial would take the form of a building having a great terrace and portico toward the west. Such an arrangement would demand a like treatment to the north of the Capitol, and thus the sense of a distinct and characteristic memorial would be lost.

THE TERRITORY WEST OF THE CAPITOL.

The one possible site for a great memorial immediately west of the Capitol is now occupied by the Grant Monument; and no other could be added without destroying the effect of what has already been done. Even if the Grant Monument were not located as it is, any structure as large as the proposed Lincoln Memorial must be, would not only vie with the Capitol in importance, but also would block the vista from the Capitol to the Washington Monument.

FORMS OF TREATMENT.

A colonnade or an arcade around the Plaza, such as has been suggested, is open to the objection that, however desirable such a feature might be in itself, it would be in effect an adjunct to the railroad station and would fall far short of fulfilling the reasonable ideal of a monument to Abraham Lincoln.

The suggestion of a monumental arch on one of the avenues leading to the Capitol is open to two objections: First, the arch is most effective when used to crown an elevation, a physical impossibility in this instance; second, an arch, when used on one of the radial avenues, would seriously detract from the effect of the dome of the Capitol.

Minor forms of architectural or sculptural design might be entirely proper in the axis of one or more of the radial avenues, but they could not have either the importance or the individuality necessary to a great memorial; and the same is true of any fountain, cascades, or other water features that might be introduced on the west front of the Capitol.

The principal reason advanced for placing the Lincoln Memorial near the Union Station or on Capitol Hill is that more people would see it there than elsewhere. It is true that more transient visitors would pass it; but it is also true that an object which we must make some effort to see impresses itself on us with much more force than does one which is seen casually or incidentally. Not how many people see a monument, but how great is the impression made by it, is the real test. The locations just considered are in the vortex of busy life, and whatever grandeur and impressive simplicity and beauty the memorial might possess would be lessened by close competition with the massive structure of the station and the immense pile of the Capitol.

An axiom of exposition practice, which applies with equal force here, is that the least desirable place for an exhibit is near a busy entrance. Crowds hurry past to see what is beyond. Placed near the station the Lincoln Memorial would teach but a feeble lesson; and the sentiments it should stimulate would find no adequate response on the part of the beholders.

The commission have reached this conclusion after having opportunity to consider a set of more than one hundred architectural studies representing work carried on over a series of years with the purpose of discovering, if possible, some location and some form of structure which might be introduced into the Capitol area without producing a sense of inadequacy and incongruity. These studies cover the field of possibilities, and prove conclusively that any location near the Capitol presents

obstacles that are insurmountable, if the manifest desire of Congress for a great memorial is to be carried out.

The block plans, sketches, and perspectives of possible treatments worked out to show what might be done in each section of the territory in the neighborhood of the Capitol are at the disposal of the Lincoln Memorial Commission; and we are confident that they will convince your members of the impracticability of any site under the shadow of the dome of the Capitol.

THE POTOMAC PARK SITE.

The comparative isolation of the Potomac Park site in the midst of a large area of undeveloped vacant land constitutes a peculiar advantage. For a long distance in every direction the surroundings are absolutely free from such treatment as would best enhance the effect of the memorial. The fact that there are now no features of interest or importance, that everything is yet to be done, means that no embarrassing obstacles would interfere with the development of a setting adequate in extent and perfect in design, without compromise and without discord.

Congress has here created a great park area, raised well above the highest river floods, and this area now awaits development. By the ordinary operations of park improvement it is a simple matter to raise in this area an eminence suited to the site of a great memorial, and to adorn and surround it by such landscape features as shall give it effective and beautiful support. In judging the site of a memorial to endure throughout the ages we must regard not what the location was, nor what it is to-day, but what it can be made for all time to come. The short period required for grading and the growth of trees would be as nothing compared with the possibility which this site presents of treating freely every element of the surroundings in the best manner that the skill of man can devise.

It is impossible to overestimate the importance of giving to a monument of the size and significance of the Lincoln Memorial complete and undisputed domination over a large area, together with a certain dignified isolation from competing structures, or even from minor features unrelated to it. Upon no other possible site in the city of Washington can this end be secured so completely as upon the Potomac Park site.

A memorial upon this location would have the further advantage that it need not be so high as to bring it into competition with the Washington Monument in order to make it visible from great distances without danger of obstruction by buildings erected on private property. A monumental structure standing in a broad plain surrounded by an amphitheater of hills is as widely seen and is as impressive as one upon a hilltop. From the hills of the District and of Virginia the constantly recurring views of a great Lincoln Memorial, seen in association with the Washington Monument and the Dome of the Capitol, would be impressive in the highest degree.

While this site is sufficiently isolated to give it dignity, it is readily accessible, being situated in a park which even in its partially developed state has become a place of great popular resort, and which is destined to be the chief center of outdoor reunion in Washington, for people on foot as well as those in vehicles.

As a matter of general design in relation to the plan of the city as a whole, any site upon the main east and west axis, in line with the Capitol and the Washington Monument, has an importance which no other site can claim; and the termination of that axis at the Potomac River gains a significance comparable only with that of the site selected in the plan of 1791 for the monument to Washington. The Lincoln Memorial would have its dignity enhanced by being so placed; and the termination of the axis by an object worthy of rank with the Washington Monument and the Capitol would be of the utmost value to the great composition.

It is now 10 years since the Potomac Park site was first suggested for a memorial to Lincoln. Among those with whom the location found favor was the Hon. John Hay, one of Lincoln's secretaries and biographers, whose rank in statesmanship and whose taste in matters of art combine to give value to his opinion. Mr. Hay expressed in these words the feelings which in one form or another he often stated:

> As I understand it, the place of honor is on the main axis of the plan. Lincoln of all Americans next to Washington deserves this place of honor. He was of the immortals. You must not approach too close to the immortals. His monument should stand alone, remote from the common habitations of man, apart from the business and turmoil of the city; isolated, distinguished, and serene. Of all the sites, this one, near the Potomac, is most suited to the purpose.

In pursuance with your instructions we have considered carefully whether any location not specifically mentioned in your resolution meets the requirements. We are unable to find any such site. We, therefore, unanimously approve and recommend the Potomac Park site for the location of the Lincoln Memorial.

TYPE OF MEMORIAL AND SELECTION OF A DESIGNER.

When the location for the Lincoln Memorial shall have been determined by your commission, the general type of the memorial and method of selecting the designer will be the next consideration.

If you adopt the recommendation of this commission as to the site, only a few special conditions should restrict the selection of a design. To avoid competition with the Capitol or the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial should not include a dome and should not be characterized by great height, but by strong horizontal lines. Within these wide limits complete freedom of choice is possible.

There are two methods of selecting a designer: First, direct selection of one who, when appointed, would submit designs of various types and afterwards develop that one which your commission may approve; this appointment to be subject to recall if found unsatisfactory. Second, selection of a designer by competition.

In the opinion of this commission, the first method secures the most satisfactory results, and we therefore recommend it. If, however, a competition be required either by law or by decision of your commission, we recommend that you associate with you two or more architects to prepare, subject to your approval, a program for the competition and to conduct subsequent procedure; and further, that there be, in the first instance, a general competition open to any who may desire to submit preliminary designs; that, from among the authors of the best designs, a certain number be selected upon the strength not only of their submitted drawings, but

also of their past records in successful execution, and that a final competition be held among the designers so selected and a limited number of others chosen solely for their eminent record of successful executed work.

We have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
By D. H. BURNHAM, *Chairman.*

APPENDIX.

Various locations besides those specified in the resolution of the Lincoln Memorial Commission have been considered, but no one of them has been found suitable.

Below are given brief statements of the opinion of the Commission of Fine Arts in regard to the most important of these and also in regard to certain forms which have been proposed for the memorial.

Meridian Hill.

It has been suggested that the Lincoln Memorial might take the form of an arch located on Meridian Hill in the axis of Sixteenth Street. This site would depend for its effectiveness almost wholly upon the vista of Sixteenth Street. This is so narrow and the foliage extends so far into the street that for a considerable portion of the year the memorial would be hidden from view at those points where it should be most effective.

Moreover, this region will soon be a busy one, and even now is occupied by residences of many and varied styles of architecture. Located here, the Lincoln Memorial would lack that isolation which is an essential element in the site of a great monument. In the future the Meridian Hill location will probably be used for a monument, but it is not a proper site for a memorial of supreme importance.

Any monument on Meridian Hill off the axis of Sixteenth Street would occupy a position of distinctly inferior rank.

Fort Stevens.

Five miles north from the city of Washington, near the extension of Seventh Street, are the remains of Fort Stevens, where President Lincoln was under fire during the raid of Gen. Early, in July, 1864; and near by is Battle Cemetery, where a number of the soldiers who fell in that engagement were buried. It has been proposed that the Lincoln Memorial be erected in this locality, thus identifying it peculiarly with the military aspect of his presidency. Seventh Street is not a great radial avenue in the city plan, and it would be impossible to coordinate this site with any of the chief monuments of the capital.

A Memorial Bridge.

Congress has recognized the desirability of a bridge to connect Potomac Park with Arlington. Such a structure would supplement, in sentiment at least, the Lincoln Memorial, if the latter should be erected on the site recommended by the commission. The memorial to Lincoln however, should take some abstract form of art, typifying the endeavor and character of the man. From the necessary

limitations of its construction, the proposed bridge could not have a distinctly monumental character; and, because of the common purpose of traffic to which it would be put, it would not, in itself alone, impress one as a memorial.

A Road to Gettysburg.

A great road to Gettysburg has been ably and enthusiastically advocated by its projectors. The wording of the act, however, contemplates that the Lincoln Memorial shall be erected in the city of Washington, and this precludes the discussion of this project in this report. In the event that the question of a memorial in this form shall be considered further, there are reasons which appear to the Commission of Fine Arts conclusive why a road to some distant point could not be made a suitable memorial to Lincoln.

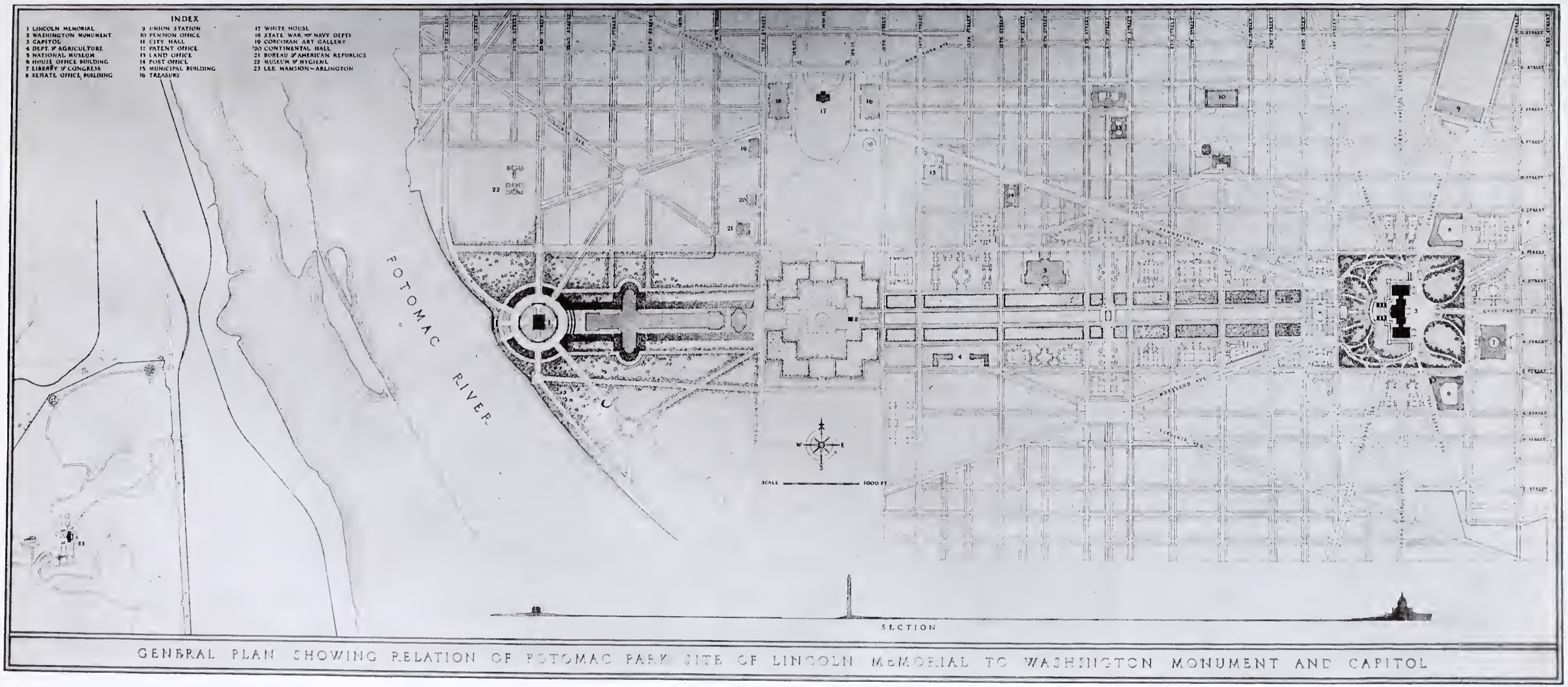
Having advised the Lincoln Memorial Commission that in its judgment the direct selection of an artist was calculated to produce the best results, the Commission of Fine Arts was requested to suggest the name of an architect. This having been done, the Lincoln Memorial Commission asked Mr. Henry Bacon, the architect named, to prepare plans for a suitable memorial to be located on the Potomac Park site, and also asked Mr. John Russell Pope, architect, to prepare plans for memorials suitable to be located on the Soldiers' Home Grounds site and on the Meridian Hill site, which sites had not been recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts. The various designs submitted by the two architects, having been referred to the Commission of Fine Arts, were reported on to the Memorial Commission. Mr. Bacon's last design for the memorial on the Potomac Park site was unanimously approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and has been accepted by the Lincoln Memorial Commission. It will be recommended to Congress for approval. A plan showing the proposed location of the memorial and an elevation of Mr. Bacon's design accompany this report.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND WORKS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The advice of the commission was requested upon the plans and designs of the following proposed public structures:

Lodge House.

A lodge house to be erected in Potomac Park by the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds.



POTOMAC PARK SITE FOR THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL.

Showing its relation to the Capitol, the Washington Monument, the White House, Arlington, and the approach to Rock Creek Park; also indicating the proposed landscape setting.

Q Street Bridge.

A new bridge to be constructed by the District of Columbia across Rock Creek at Q Street NW.

Normal School.

A normal school to be erected by the District of Columbia on Georgia Avenue NW. (Two submissions.)[1]

Armory for the District Militia.

Plans for an armory for the National Guard of the District of Columbia.[2]

The commission was asked for advice on the following subjects:

Height of Private Buildings.

The limitation of height of buildings to be erected on square 263, opposite the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.[3] Also the limitation of height of buildings to be erected adjacent to the new Washington City post office, which is being erected on the ground immediately west of the new Union Station.[3]

Lafayette Square.

A new system of walks proposed for Lafayette Square.

Reclamation of the Anacostia Flats.

A plan for the reclamation and development of the Anacostia Flats from the Anacostia River northeast to the District line, and for the creation of a water park of considerable size in the eastern section of the District of Columbia. This plan was approved with the suggestion that the proposed dam be located on the line of Massachusetts Avenue; and that the islands to be created be arranged so as to provide both agreeable vistas and also continuously sheltered channels. The opinion was expressed that the execution of the plan, as set forth by the board of engineer officers in charge of the project, when developed in detail will give to Washington a park of exceptional beauty and value.[4]

Decatur Street Terrace.

New plan for the improvement of the Decatur Street terrace at the head of Twenty-second Street NW.

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[1] See p. 39. [2] See p. 31. [3] See p. 42. [4] See p. 44.

Potomac Park.

A plan for the extension of street car lines to serve Potomac Park.

Boating Facilities in Potomac Park.

The location of boathouses along the Potomac Park water front, as well as the general conditions under which provisions should be made for yachting, boating, and other outdoor sports in the eastern section of the park.

Public Grounds along Seventeenth Street.

A plan for the treatment of the public grounds east of Seventeenth Street, between the State, War, and Navy Department Building and North B Street.

Sheridan Circle.

Treatment of parking around the Sheridan statue.

QUESTIONS OF ART REFERRED BY CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.

Portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

Opinion given to the Senate Committee on the Library upon a painting of Abraham Lincoln, by Mr. William D. Murphy.

George Washington Memorial Hall.

Report made to the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds upon a bill providing for the erection of the George Washington Memorial Building in the city of Washington.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Maine Memorial.

A memorial to be placed in Arlington Cemetery, consisting of the mast of the former battleship *Maine*. The opinion of the commission was given upon various designs for the setting of the mast; also an expression of its views was given regarding the proper artistic treatment of this subject. This matter is still under consideration.

Fort Recovery Monument.

A monument to be erected by the United States at Fort Recovery, Ohio, to the memory of the American officers and soldiers who were killed in the battles fought there in 1791 and 1794. The commission gave advice regarding 11 models submitted in the competition for the erection of the monument.

Guilford Court House Monument.

A monument to be erected by the United States at Guilford Court House, N. C., to commemorate the great victory won there on March 15, 1781, by the American forces, commanded by Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene and the officers and soldiers of the Continental Army who participated in the battle of Guilford Court House. The commission gave advice regarding 12 models submitted in the competition for the erection of the monument. (Two submissions.)

Germantown Memorial.

A monument to be erected at Germantown, Pa., in commemoration of the founding of the first permanent German settlement in America, toward the erection of which the United States has authorized the expenditure of $25,000. The advice of the commission was requested regarding the models submitted in the competition for the erection of the monument. Final decision has not been reached.

Indian Memorial.

A memorial to be erected by Mr. Rodman Wanamaker, of New York City, without expense to the United States Government, to the memory of the North American Indian, upon a site to be selected in New York Harbor on a Government reservation. The commission gave advice upon the site for the proposed memorial.[1]

Perry Memorial.

A memorial proposed to be erected on Put in Bay Island, Ohio. Congress having made an appropriation to aid in the erection of a monument at Put in Bay, Lake Erie, to commemorate the naval victory of Commodore Perry during the War of 1812, the interstate board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners, composed of representatives from the various States participating in the organization and commissioners representing the United States Government, invoked the services of the Commission of Fine Arts in the examination and selection of plans. In furtherance of this object a conference was held in Sandusky, Ohio, between

[1] See p. 45.

members of this commission and members of the interstate board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners. The designs submitted, 54 in number, were examined in Washington, and the award recommended by the commission was confirmed by the commissioners representing the United States and the States interested. Illustrations of the four successful designs accompany this report.[1]

Thomas Statue.

The commission gave advice whereby the discoloration of the Thomas Statue, at the intersection of Massachusetts and Vermont Avenues, Washington, has been corrected.

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1912.

Statues, fountains, and monuments in the District of Columbia, including two submissions carried over from past fiscal year		15
Public buildings and works in the District of Columbia		14
Questions of art referred by congressional committees		2
Miscellaneous		8
Questions submitted but returned, as commission was without authority to act		2
		41
Not acted on at close of year	2	
Submissions returned because commission was without authority to act	2	
		4
Total considered and disposed of during the year		37

The following summary shows the various expenditures and liabilities incurred by the commission during the fiscal year 1912:

Salaries of employees	$2,136.00
Members' traveling expenses	2,655.56
Furniture and furnishings	359.65
Telephone and telegraph service	145.54
Photographs and printing	355.50
Books and maps	193.71
Office supplies, repairing plans, etc. (hauling, framing, and glazing), cleaning offices, etc.	942.67
	6,788.63

Respectfully,

DANIEL C. FRENCH, *Chairman.*

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

[1] See p. 46.

PART II

RESOLUTIONS, REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

RESOLUTIONS, REPORTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Resolutions.

ACTION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEATH OF DANIEL H. BURNHAM, CHAIRMAN.

Washington, D. C., *June 21, 1912.*

Daniel Hudson Burnham, appointed by President Taft the chairman of this commission on its organization in May, 1910, died suddenly in Heidelberg, Germany, June 1, 1912. His death was hastened by overexertion at the time of the last meeting of the commission in which he took part.

As director of works of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, Mr. Burnham achieved a signal success, first, in conceiving that exhibition on a large and magnificent scale; and, secondly, in bringing about a spirit of cooperation among the artists, which produced a result never surpassed in a work of that kind.

This success led directly to the selection of Mr. Burnham as one of the two original members of the commission on the improvement of the District of Columbia, appointed in 1901 under authority of the United States Senate. In this position he again gave evidence of breadth of view and ability to accomplish results. While he guided the entire work of the Park Commission, he personally secured the cooperation of President Cassatt of the Pennsylvania Railroad, whom he induced to give up the right to use public grounds, and to withdraw the railroad terminals to privately acquired property in a different section of Washington. The solution of this problem was essential to any adequate scheme for the development of the National Capital; and Congress promptly adopted the proposition outlined by the Park Commission. The Union Station setting, as it did, a new standard in civic architecture, stands as the embodiment in part of Mr. Burnham's dream of a new Washington, unsurpassed among the capitals of the nations.

The fact demonstrated by the Park Commission, that the city of Washington began with a superb plan which needed but enlargement and extension to adapt it to modern needs, gave the impetus to city planning throughout the country. Mr. Burnham's services were sought by Cleveland and San Francisco, and this Government asked and obtained his further aid in the preparation of a plan for the transformation of Manila, so as to adapt that ancient city to changed times and modern needs. Also he made the plan for the summer capital of the Philippines on the hills of Baguio.

Then at the call of his home town, he gave four of the best years of his life and the results of his ripe experience to an exhaustive study of the means and methods

whereby the great commercial city of Chicago may develop into a place where all its citizens shall be able to work under the most advantageous conditions, and to live amid surroundings conducive to health and happiness. No prophet of old ever beheld a more glorious vision, or labored more persuasively and confidently for its realization.

All of these public services were rendered without compensation, and at the sacrifice not alone of business opportunities, but also of those domestic hours which were the greatest joys of his life. He firmly believed that duty to his country demanded that he serve her unreservedly in the ways that were open to him, no matter at what expense of personal ease. Days and nights of irksome travel, incessant attendance at committee meetings, the expenditure of vital force to arouse the lethargic or to convince the reluctant and obstinate, all were involved in the price he paid; and his reward was in the sense of duty done; and also in the joy of accomplishment.

In all his work he disclaimed rather than sought personal credit. He talked rarely of things done; for he lived in the future, where there was so much to do. He was eager to accord the fullest recognition to those associated with him; and he drew them to him by his open-mindedness and his readiness to take suggestions. He had no pride of opinion, but rather a sweet reasonableness that was a part of his very nature. And yet there were those who thought him masterful, and who saw only his persistence and unswerving progress to the goal.

When this commission was created by Congress, the selection of Mr. Burnham as its chairman was the natural choice. The President had consulted him from time to time on matters such as were to come before the commission. All of its members knew him; most of us had worked with him. Quickly, therefore, the organization was set in operation. Now that he has gone from us, we realize what his personality has meant; how judicious his counsels have been; and how many pitfalls his wisdom has helped to avoid. As long as any of the original members of the commission remain in its service, so long will his presence be felt at these meetings; and when others take our places, his influence and his example must continue to be a guide and an inspiration.

ACTION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEATH OF FRANCIS D. MILLET, VICE CHAIRMAN.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 10, 1912.*

The Commission of Fine Arts place on record their sense of the irreparable loss sustained by reason of the death of Francis Davis Millet, who perished in the *Titanic* disaster. On the organization of this commission, Mr. Millet was elected vice chairman, and the exacting work which fell to him in that position was done by him cheerfully, faithfully, intelligently, and tactfully. Training in the various branches of art, wide knowledge, cultivated taste, and the power of expressing ideas clearly and forcibly, gave the highest value to his service on the commission. At the same time his sympathy, his kindly nature, his quickness to grasp and his

PRELIMINARY DESIGN FOR AN ARMORY FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, BY MESSRS. TRACY, SWARTWOUT, AND LITCHFIELD, OF NEW YORK CITY.

readiness to consider points of view other than his own, made companionship with him a rare pleasure. While we deplore his loss as a fellow worker in a cause so deeply at heart, we are grateful that we have been permitted to enjoy his comradeship and to profit by his knowledge and experience. To his family we, who have known him long and well, express our sincere sympathy in their sorrow. His distinguished and varied achievements, his courage maintained throughout a life passed largely among perils, his reputation, and his broad human sympathies are a heritage beyond estimation.

* * * * * * *

[Public Resolution—No. 59.]

[S. J. Res. 108.]

JOINT RESOLUTION Authorizing the erection on the public grounds in the city of Washington of a joint memorial to Major Archibald W. Butt and Francis Davis Millet.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to grant permission for the erection on public grounds of the United States in the city of Washington, other than those of the Capitol, the Library of Congress, and the White House, of a joint memorial, of simple and artistic form, to Major Archibald W. Butt, United States Army, and Mr. Francis Davis Millet, vice chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, officers of the United States who perished in the *Titanic* disaster; *Provided*, That the site chosen and the design of the memorial shall be approved by the President of the United States upon the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts, and that the United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of the said memorial.

Approved, August 24, 1912.

Reports and Communications Relative to Matters Submitted by the President and by Committees of Congress.

ARMORY FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C., May 13, 1912.

Sir: In compliance with your request of January 16, that the Commission of Fine Arts pass on the design for the proposed armory for the National Guard of the District of Columbia, the commission has examined the design submitted and finds it to be one of dignity and distinct architectural merit, well adapted to a site on the north side of the Mall.

It should, however, be pointed out that, while this design is impressive and would no doubt make an imposing public monument, the commission feels reluctant to give its unqualified approval for the following reasons:

The commission does not see the propriety of building a Greek colonnade detached from the main wall of the building, when such a colonnade is not a necessary feature in the design for an armory. Equal dignity could be secured in a

design of the same general character by omitting the continuous portico, without necessarily modifying the practical features of the plan. If the portico is omitted and the columns are engaged on the wall or placed within the main line of the wall, a suitable setting could be obtained by a broad terrace in advance of the building in the space now occupied by the portico. The adoption of this recommendation would effect a very great saving in the cost of the structure and would certainly not impair its practical efficiency.

It has come to the attention of the commission that Congress has under consideration changing the site originally proposed for this building. It will be obvious that, should an entirely different site be chosen, the architects will be obliged to restudy the design in relation to that site.

The commission, while not finally disapproving the design submitted, recommends its restudy and resubmission to the commission.

By direction of the commission:

Very respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

THE PRESIDENT,
The White House.

BRONZE TABLETS TO MARK HISTORICAL PLACES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

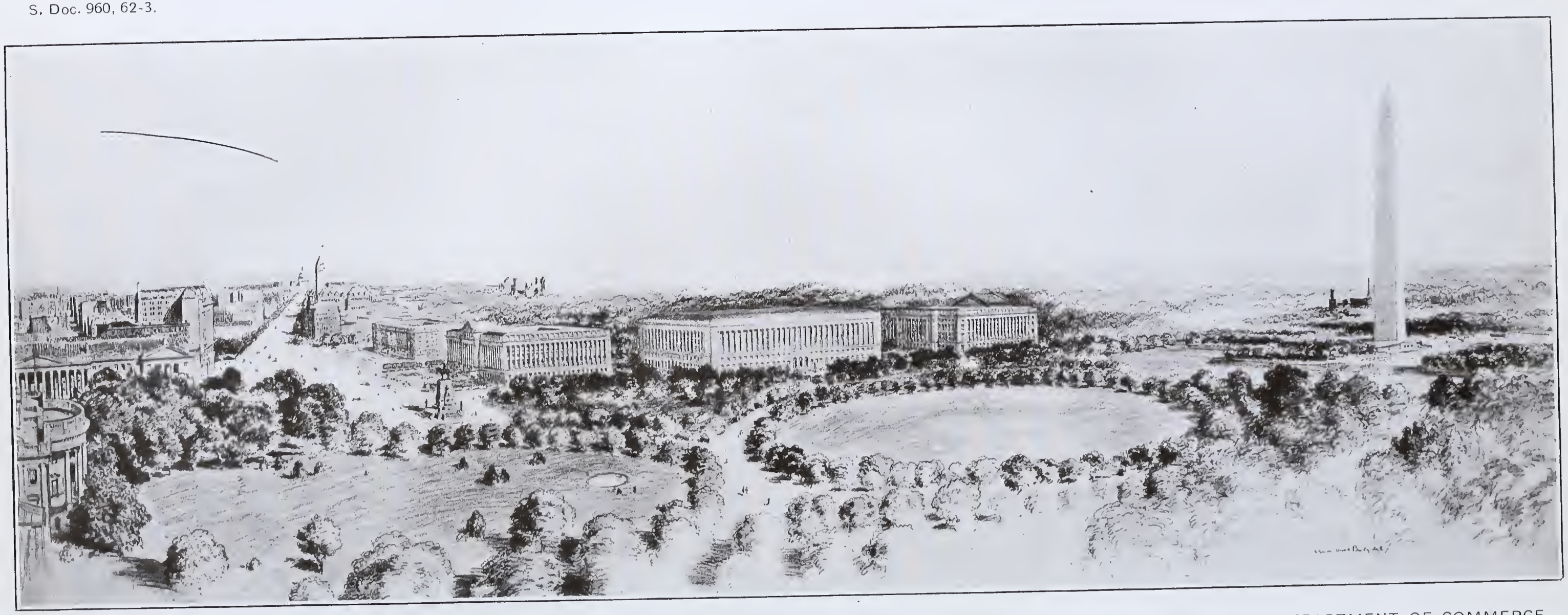
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Chicago, Ill., January 26, 1911.

SIR: In compliance with the resolution of the Joint Committee on the Library adopted at its meeting of January 12, 1911, in regard to bronze tablets to mark historical places in the District of Columbia, the Commission of Fine Arts has the honor to submit the following report:

The commission is anxious to render every assistance it can to your committee in securing the adoption of worthy designs for the proposed commemoration tablets, which it believes to be a matter of serious artistic importance.

The essential features of such a tablet being the inscription, its excellence depends chiefly upon the skill and artistic feeling with which the lettering is distributed and designed; and any decorative elements that may be added, such as borders or emblems or other devices, should be used strictly as accessories, to heighten the effect of the composition formed by the lettering itself. It follows, therefore, that as the text of the inscriptions must vary widely, there should be almost equal variation in the forms of the tablets themselves and in the disposition, if not in the character, of the emblems or other accessories. Moreover, the situation of each tablet and the shape, texture, and general character of its background might have an important influence as to form and design, if unharmonious effects are to be avoided.

For all these reasons the commission can not but question the desirability of adopting any stock design or designs for the frame and decorations, with the expectation of repeating them for different inscriptions, and would urge that each tablet be designed to meet its own conditions. This would not in the least preclude the maintenance of a single harmonious character of treatment throughout the series, nor would it preclude the repetition in the different tablets of certain elements of

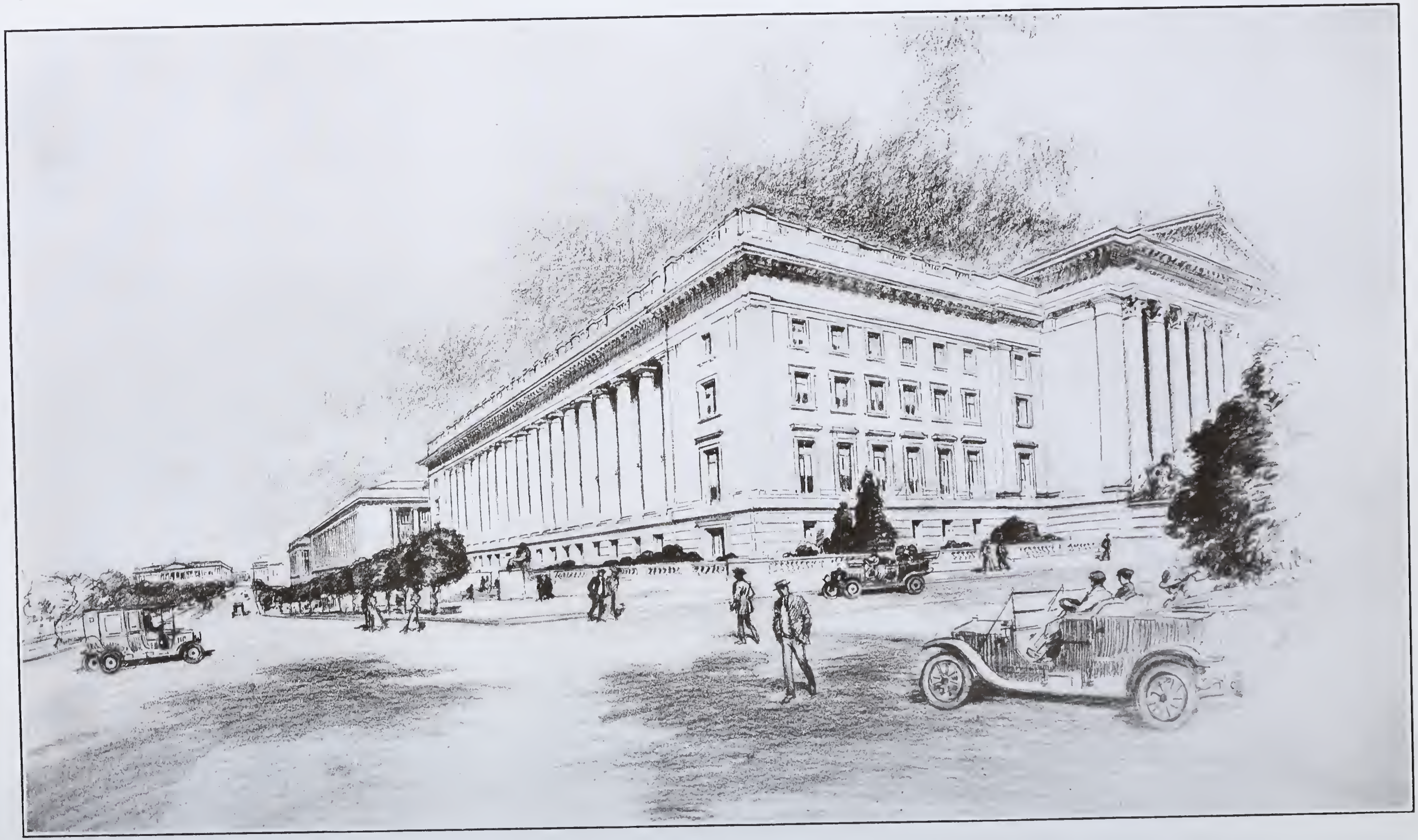


PRELIMINARY DESIGNS FOR THE PROPOSED BUILDINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Perspective of composition, showing building for the Department of Justice, fronting on Pennsylvania Avenue, at the left of the composition; the building for the Department of State, fronting on the Mall, on the right of the composition; with the building for the Department of Commerce and Labor in the center. Architect of the building for the Department of Justice: Mr. Donn Barber, 25 East Twenty-sixth Street, New York City. Architect of the building for the Department of State: Mr. Arnold W. Brunner, 320 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Architects of the building for the Department of Commerce and Labor: Messrs. York and Sawyer, 50 East Forty-first Street, New York City.

PRELIMINARY DESIGNS FOR THE PROPOSED BUILDINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

View from Treasury Department, showing northern elevation of the building for the Department of Justice.



PRELIMINARY DESIGNS FOR THE PROPOSED BUILDINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

View up Fifteenth Street from the Mall, showing southern elevation of building for the Department of State.

PRELIMINARY DESIGNS FOR THE PROPOSED BUILDINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR. ELEVATION OF BUILDINGS FROM THE WEST

design, such as the United States seal, which would be desirable as giving a uniform official character to the tablets; or one or more particular patterns of border and moldings; or a given character of lettering. Such repetitions would be desirable artistically, and would effect an appreciable economy in the preparation of the patterns and molds for casting. Our point is simply that each new inscription and each new location presents a new problem—that of arranging a new set of words in a certain way and forming them with letters of such size and shape that they will make an agreeable composition upon a tablet well fitted for the place it is to occupy.

The art must lie in the composition of the individual tablet quite as much as in the selection of good letters and other elements; else good taste in the typefounder would insure the printing of beautiful books. As a matter of fact, the artistic ability involved in composing a beautiful page of type, such as a title-page or an inscription, is of very high order, and such work can not safely be delegated to anyone who lacks that ability.

Under the circumstances the commission feels that for it to undertake the duty of designing the proposed series of tablets would be a precedent for taking up serious burdens of a creative sort, lying clearly beyond the field of advisory and critical activities assigned to the commission by law; and it therefore recommends that a designer be employed to undertake this work. The commission will be very glad to to pass upon the designs and in any other way to assist your committee with its advice.

Very respectfully,

D. H. Burnham, *Chairman.*

Hon. Geo. Peabody Wetmore,
Chairman Joint Committee on the Library, United States Senate.

Reports and Communications Relative to Department Buildings in the District of Columbia.

BUILDINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, OF JUSTICE, AND OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C., July 9, 1910.

Sir: In accordance with your request the Commission of Fine Arts has the honor to submit the following suggestions with the view of incorporating them, if you so desire, in the program in case there is to be a competition for the three important buildings contemplated for the Department of State, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Commerce and Labor.

It is, in our opinion, important that the buildings for the Department of Justice and the Department of State be placed at either end of the composition and that the building for the Department of Commerce and Labor be placed between them, but we do not consider it a matter of artistic importance which one of the end buildings be placed on Pennsylvania Avenue.

We think that the northern elevation of the building on Pennsylvania Avenue should be parallel with the existing Municipal Building, or normal to Fifteenth Street; that it should be somewhat in advance of the Municipal Building façade,

but not enough to diminish greatly the irregular space which we recommend be left open between the buildings and Pennsylvania Avenue.

We recommend that the two end buildings be elevated on terraces, both because of the existing grades and because of the character which it is desirable to give to these buildings; that the Fifteenth Street façade of the central building be placed farther back from the street line than the two end buildings. The central axis on this street need not coincide with that of the elipse in the White Lot, since the latter area can be at some future time modified in design. Further, we think that the building farthest south should occupy a position as nearly as possible parallel with the National Museum.

At all times this commission will be pleased to advise upon any matters referred to it by the commission in charge of the construction of the buildings for the Departments of State, of Justice, and of Commerce and Labor.

Very respectfully,

D. H. BURNHAM, *Chairman.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., June 17, 1911.

SIR: The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting yesterday gave most careful consideration to the plans for the new buildings for the Departments of State, of Justice, and of Commerce and Labor, in accordance with the President's wishes.

I am directed to state that the commission approves the general preliminary plans for the group of buildings for the Departments of State, of Justice, and of Commerce and Labor, with the understanding that, in the preparation of the more detailed designs, the architects will be free to develop such improvements as may be suggested by study on a larger scale under the direction of their respective commissions, and that the Commission of Fine Arts may have the opportunity to consult with the architects and to express an opinion upon the detailed designs before their final adoption.

By direction of the commission:

Very respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

Hon. CHARLES D. HILLES,
Secretary to the President.

A BUILDING FOR THE BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., July 9, 1910.

SIR: After careful consideration of the sketch of the proposed building of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing the Commission of Fine Arts has the honor to submit the following comments and suggestions:

The general plan of the building, with a substantially unbroken western front and with four projecting wings on the east, separated by open courts, seems admirably adapted to the purpose. The building, however, is not well related to its site and surroundings since the central entrance misses bv about 32 feet being opposite C

BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING

Designed by the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department.

Street and the southern pavilion misses D Street by about the same distance. These discrepancies can be overcome without any difficulty. Another radical matter is the monumental emphasis which is given in the sketch to the center of the west front upon the ultimate removal of the present buildings and their replacement by a wing symmetrical with that which is now projected. Nothing in the present conditions of the site and no probable or desirable development of Potomac Park could be made to correspond with the axis so strongly accentuated in the sketch or give it the support and justification which it would demand.

Further, while the building is very important and conspicuous because of its size and its frontage upon Potomac Park, we nevertheless feel that both its position and its functions as a manufacturing establishment make it unwise to adopt for it an architectural expression so monumental and grandiose as to rival and even to surpass that of the chief administrative buildings of the Government and the other public structures that will be erected along the Mall.

If we are correctly informed, the incomplete portion of the whole symmetrical design which it is proposed to erect at the present time would contain accommodations sufficient for the bureau for perhaps a generation to come, during which period the building would look painfully incomplete. We would therefore suggest that a building of the capacity which it is thought best to erect out of the present appropriation be planned complete in itself with a western façade of relatively simple design, without any strongly marked east and west axis and with such architectural treatment as will make it possible to extend the building as necessity may arise. We believe that the northern end of the building now to be erected should be kept to the south of the line of the proposed avenue bounding the south side of the Monument Garden as shown on the Park Commission plan. This would be perhaps from 50 to 100 feet farther south than the position of the building shown on the plan submitted to us.

We not only call attention to the appropriateness of a simpler type of architecture for the building, but urge most strongly that the same material be used for the exterior throughout. The modifications suggested above chiefly concern the exterior of the building, and, inasmuch as the elevation has been studied only as a sketch the reconsideration of the design will not materially delay the work.

At all times this commission will be glad to advise upon any matters referred to it by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Respectfully, D. H. BURNHAM, *Chairman.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
February 1, 1911.

GENTLEMEN: At the request of the Secretary of the Treasury, I have to make the following report relative to the modifications of the plans for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, submitted to your commission for comment and advice early in July last:

Your commission made five criticisms which are noted below, together with the modifications in the work in accordance therewith.

First. That the building is not well related to its site and surroundings, since the central court on the east misses by about 32 feet being central on C Street, and the south pavilion misses D Street by about the same distance.

As it was impossible to accomplish the coincidence of the south pavilion with the axis of D Street, and at the same time the center of the central court on the axis of C Street, the axis of C Street was placed in the center of the north court, and the south pavilion on the axis of D street, it being impossible to locate far enough north to allow the central court on C street to be on an axis with C Street, as the land at that point is now occupied by the present buildings of the Bureau, which can not be taken away.

Second. Objection was made to the ornamental emphasis given to the building by the pediment in the future center of the west front.

This has been overcome by the omission altogether of that pediment, leaving only the small pavilions at the north and south ends of that front, with a long colonnade between them.

Third. Objection is made to the adoption of a type of architecture too grandiose for a manufacturing establishment.

This has been overcome by the adoption of a simpler type of architecture, which is at the same time sufficiently dignified and impressive to harmonize with the ornate buildings that will be placed on the main axis of the Mall. It is not believed, however, that the function of this building as a manufacturing establishment will justify an architectural expression less interesting or attractive than that of the Treasury itself, for the bureau, being an annex to the Treasury, will occupy a conspicuous position with relation to the new Potomac Drive, the Mall, and the reservation for the monument. For this reason the Secretary desires to have a monumental building of either limestone or granite, and therefore it was believed that pilasters or columns should be provided on at least three sides of the building, the fourth side being irregular in outline from the adoption of wide open courts, a monumental treatment could not be obtained.

Fourth. Criticism was made that the building as originally planned was incomplete and for a number of years would present to the public from the Mall view an unfinished rough construction appearance.

This has been overcome by designing a building complete in itself, with no idea of any future addition to that building. If further additions are required in the future, a separate structure as an administration building will be constructed, the axis of which will be on the proposed new B Street south, or if not at that point, will be kept entirely north of the axis of that street, permitting it to run through to Fourteenth Street.

The fifth comment was the strong desire that the same material be used for the exterior throughout.

This of course could be accomplished were there money enough allowed, but as preliminary estimates showed that that was more than doubtful, and as actual estimates have proven the preliminary estimates correct, it is now contemplated to use granite or limestone on the south, west, and north fronts of the building, and on the east front to match either the granite or limestone in concrete.

From the foregoing it is believed that it will be seen that in the main, it might be said almost entirely, the criticisms and comments of your commission have been

met, and the department will be very glad, if it is so desired, to submit the completed drawings for your further comment.

Respectfully,

C. D. HILLES, *Assistant Secretary.*

The COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Lemon Building.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., February 15, 1911.

SIR: The Commission of Fine Arts acknowledges receipt of your report of February 1 on the modifications of the plans of the building for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The modified design for the building is highly satisfactory, and the commission congratulates the Treasury Department both on the type of architecture selected and also on the dignified and even noble manner in which the design has been carried out. The result should be gratifying in a very high degree.

The commission submits some suggestions as to certain matters which, although subordinate to the general plan, are nevertheless very important in producing to the fullest degree the effects intended:

Can the vault in the north rear court be moved a few feet to the south in order to make it center exactly on C Street?

Are the five door architraves in the center of the south elevation of the Roman doric order? If not, should they not be changed?

Would not wider steps for the main outside entrance add grace and dignity to the building? Those shown seem too narrow.

Considering the use of the Roman doric style, the lions used at the entrance should be the severe Syrian type, similar to those on the Termini Fountain in Rome, and used in numerous other instances; the naturalistic type should not be used.

The commission adheres to its original suggestion that the rear facing in the courts be of granite. If the amount of money available renders this seemingly impossible, a careful estimate should be made of the increased expense (which would not be large), and it is suggested that an additional appropriation be asked for to cover this specific item. We feel that Government work should set a standard of excellence and especially of thoroughness; moreover, any cheapening of one face of a building is sooner or later to be regretted. A striking instance is seen in the east front of the Treasury Department building from which the Government has recently, at great expense, removed the original sandstone columns to replace them with columns of granite; other instances might easily be adduced. While it is now impossible to say what use will be made of the grounds east of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, such use will undoubtedly be a dignified one. If this rear frontage be made of granite, we suggest that the main cornice be carried through and that the tower-like treatment of the main building in the center court be restudied to bring it to a more dignified aspect.

Very respectfully,

D. H. BURNHAM, *Chairman.*

Hon. C. D. HILLES,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Reports and Communications Relative to Matters submitted by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and Relative to the District of Columbia.

STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE RECOMMENDED FOR MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS.

The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C., February 15, 1911.

Sir: The Commission of Fine Arts acknowledges the receipt of the blue prints of the plans of the following buildings:

A normal school, an engine house, a manual training school.

The normal school is an important structure. The need for a large amount of light is recognized in your letter, but seems not to be fully met in the plans presented. Several of the rooms have outside windows of an area much less than the specified one-fifth of the floor space, and appear to depend largely on borrowed light. Moreover, the outside windows are generally arranged in groups, three windows wide, in such a manner as to give a less effective distribution of light than could be secured from separated windows of the same area. As the grouping of windows is a characteristic feature of the style of architecture selected, and as the scale of the individual window openings shown in the drawing is already larger than is characteristic of this style, it would seem important either to select a different style or to use grouped windows consisting of a larger number of units and giving a greater area of glass. Large mullioned windows are frequently found in Elizabethan buildings; but the individual openings and the mullions which separate them were never on so large a scale as is suggested in these drawings. In other respects, also, the elevation submitted, even though regarded as a mere preliminary sketch, suggests a lack of mastery of the details upon which the charm of this style largely depends; also, the staircases seem narrow, and we question whether the corridors are of sufficient width for the accommodation of the occupants of the building.

The designer of the engine house has knowledge of the details of the style used and has made a presentable front to his building.

The exterior of the manual training school is straightforward and good, and the result should be satisfactory, provided the details are properly drawn. The plan appears satisfactory, but we do not understand how it is intended to design the cornice and roof over the narrow wall returned on the parking which forms an angle with the main park wall.

In the opinion of the commission the general aspect of the District of Columbia would be improved if some uniform style of school architecture could be adopted and adhered to; and the same may be said in respect to engine houses and other public buildings. The adoption of a style for each class of public buildings would not in any way prevent originality in adapting a specific building to its particular needs; and in Washington, where the architecture is of so heterogeneous a nature similarity in public buildings would add much to the impressiveness of the city. We urge that immediate attention be given to this subject with the view of adopting

certain styles of architecture which would be harmonious among themselves, and would also be adapted to the particular purposes in view.

By direction of the commission:

Very respectfully, SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army.
Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
President Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., January 31, 1912.

SIR: The Commission of Fine Arts has given careful consideration to the plans for a colored normal school building, to be erected on Georgia Avenue, received with your request for consideration and advice.

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts have been in the past, and will continue to be in the future, anxious to give the Commissioners of the District of Columbia the benefit of their experience and knowledge. In order to arrive at the best results in this spasmodic cooperation, it is obviously necessary to handle each problem without gloves.

When the designs of the normal school to be erected at the southwest corner of Eleventh and Harvard Streets NW. were submitted to us last year we were given to understand that the necessity for the prompt erection of the school building and other circumstances made it out of the question to redesign the building completely, and our criticisms and suggestions, both by letter and in personal conferences with the architect, were therefore directed primarily to the amendment of certain features, without regard to any change from the Elizabethan style adopted. We called attention, however, to the importance of harmony of style in the schoolhouses of the District.

That point was made because we assumed that the building in question, which was not in harmony with the architectural traditions and associations which have become established in Washington, was the result of individual preference in an isolated case and might be followed by others equally individual in character. But from what was said to us informally by the municipal architect and from the present attempt to follow the Elizabethan style in the colored normal school there appears to be a deliberate effort to secure a certain consonance among the school buildings by adopting that style for use in all of them.

We are unanimously of the opinion that the Elizabethan style, which was the expression of an age and life quite foreign to our times, and which is peculiarly associated with a different country and a different climate, is ill adapted and inappropriate for public buildings of the present day in Washington.

We believe that we should follow the traditions established by the early architecture in this capital, which adhered to classical traditions while exhibiting great freedom in adaptation to varying practical requirements, ranging from simple brick structures, such as the Octagon, to the White House itself. The architecture of to-day should be evolved from the architecture of those times, adhering to the same classical traditions with equal freedom of expression in the practical solution of every problem.

With these principles in view we recommend that the present design for the colored normal school be abandoned and the problem be restudied on the lines suggested above, with a view to maintaining the Washington tradition in all future school buildings.

The difficulties of the problem are serious. Everything depends on the architect. He must be a man not only of experience and sound judgment but of discriminating taste, and thoroughly sympathetic with the distinguishing qualities of the style in which he is to work.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Respectfully,

F. D. MILLET,
Vice Chairman.

Maj. W. V. JUDSON,
Corps of Engineers, United States Army,
Engineer Commissioner, District of Columbia.

ADVICE AS TO THE ARCHITECTURE OF SUBORDINATE BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., February 15, 1911.

SIR: The Commission of Fine Arts acknowledges the reference of the plans for a storehouse of the Naval Battalion of the Militia of the District of Columbia for the comments of the commission.

The plan, materials, and scale of ornamentation are satisfactory, but the tablet containing the name is a disturbing feature of the design and should be omitted. The commission suggests, however, that the style of architecture should conform to that originally used for storehouses at the old Washington Arsenal, and adopted by the architects of the War College. The precedent thus established should be followed in all military storehouses in the District of Columbia.

Very respectfully,

D. H. BURNHAM, *Chairman.*

Gen. GEORGE H. HARRIES,
Brigadier General, Commanding
District of Columbia Militia.

ADVICE AS TO THE HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS CONFRONTING THE STATE, WAR, AND NAVY DEPARTMENT BUILDING, THE NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING, AND THE BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, COMMISSIONERS
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
January 4, 1911.

GENTLEMEN: The Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia have the honor to request your consideration and advice on the following matter, which is before them for decision: * * *

The commissioners have been asked to what height an office building may be erected on the southeast corner of square 167, confronting the State, War, and Navy Department building. This office building would front on what has been designated

Pennsylvania Avenue and Sixteenth and One-half Street, or Jackson Place. The commissioners have designated Pennsylvania Avenue from Eleventh Street, east to Rock Creek, a business street, and on business streets of the width of Pennsylvania Avenue a fireproof building may be erected to a height of 130 feet, under the act of Congress approved June 1, 1910, regulating the height of buildings in the District of Columbia.

Section 5 of this act provides

On blocks immediately adjacent to public buildings or to the side of any public building for which plans have been prepared and money appropriated at the time of the application for the permit to construct said building, the maximum height shall be regulated by a schedule adopted by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

The commissioners believe that under this section they would be authorized to regulate the height of buildings in this square, which confronts the State, War, and Navy Department building. It is their idea that the extreme limit of height for future buildings to be erected on this square, and on square 221, which fronts on Pennsylvania Avenue, between Fifteenth Street and Madison Place, confronting the Treasury Department building, should be fixed at 85 feet, which is the limit of height allowed by law on residence streets.

For æsthetic reasons it would seem important to have a uniform sky line on these frontages, and as buildings in these squares fronting on Jackson Place and Madison Place are limited by law to a height of 80 feet, it would appear reasonable in order to have a uniform sky line to limit buildings fronting on the Pennsylvania Avenue side of these squares to about the same height. Buildings already erected on the Pennsylvania Avenue front of square 221 by the Riggs National Bank and by the American Security Co. have a height of 68 feet and 73 feet, respectively.

The commissioners would appreciate any advice in this matter which your commission may be pleased to give.

Very respectfully,

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
By CUNO H. RUDOLPH, *President.*

The COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., January 14, 1911.

SIR: I am directed by the Commission of Fine Arts to transmit to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia the following resolution adopted by the Commission of Fine Arts at a meeting held on January 13, 1911:

Resolved, That, after a careful consideration of the letter from the Commissioners of the District of Columbia dated January 4, 1911, and an inspection of the squares in question (167 and 221), the Commission of Fine Arts recommends that buildings in these squares be limited to a height of 80 feet.

Respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

Hon. CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
President the Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., November 4, 1911.

SIR: The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting held on November 2, gave consideration to the request in your letter of October 14, for advice from the commission as to what should be the permissible height of buildings adjacent to the new Post Office Building.

I was directed to inform you that the commission think that buildings on the corners of Massachusetts Avenue and North Capitol Street should not extend higher than the new post office. The high point of the post-office roof will be 128.1 feet above datum at the intersection of above streets, and the sidewalk being plus 40 feet, makes this highest point 88.1 feet above street. To this 88.1 feet add the 1.7 feet of fall of street toward the west and you have about 90 feet, which should be all right.

Very respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

Hon. CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
President Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., December 16, 1911.

SIR: I am directed by the Commission of Fine Arts to transmit to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia the following resolution adopted by the Commission of Fine Arts at a meeting held on December 15, 1911:

Resolved, That, after a careful consideration of the letter from the Commissioners of the District of Columbia dated November 18, 1911, and an inspection of the site in question (lot 11, square 263, D. C.), the Commission of Fine Arts is of the opinion that buildings in this block, confronting the Bureau of Engraving and Printing on Fourteenth Street, shoud be limited to a height of 80 feet above the curb.

Respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

Hon. CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
President the Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia.

TROLLEY CARS ON THE CONNECTICUT AVENUE BRIDGE.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., June 17, 1911.

SIR: At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held yesterday, careful consideration was given to the question of allowing a car line to be placed on the Connecticut Avenue Bridge over Rock Creek, as requested in your letter of May 19.

I am directed to state the following as the views of the Commission of Fine Arts·

The Connecticut Avenue Bridge was designed for the ordinary traffic of vehicles—not for street-car use—and there is a certain æsthetic objection to the disturbance of the thoroughfare by overcrowding the bridge approach to the wider avenue beyond, which would result from the laying of double lines of tracks, leaving too constricted a space for carriages and automobiles on either side. However, if the practical advantages of the use of the bridge by street-car lines are great, and convenience of access to the territory northwest of the bridge is thereby improved very much, the Commission of Fine Arts is of the opinion that the æsthetic objections are not strong enough to outweigh the practical considerations. Of course the commission understands that overhead trolleys will not be used on the bridge.

By direction of the commission.

Respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

Hon. CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
President Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia.

THE LIGHTING OF PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., May 19, 1911.

SIR: At its meeting held yesterday the Commission of Fine Arts gave careful consideration to the plan presented in your letter of April 12 for a suggested system of lighting to be installed on Pennsylvania Avenue between Fifteenth Street and the Capitol Building.

Members of the commission are personally familiar with a large number of the instances, both abroad and in this country, illustrated in the paper accompanying the report on the plan, and each of the members has independently reached the opinion that in every case of long straight avenues the appearance of the streets has suffered materially from the presence of the posts in the midst of the street. Therefore, in spite of the fact that such a method of lighting has been tried in many important thoroughfares, it is believed that lamps on tall posts, with isles of safety in connection, near the middle of the roadway, would confuse and seriously injure the appearance of Pennsylvania Avenue, the most important street vista in the Capital. Another consideration, which is both practical and æsthetic, is that the presence of these posts and islands in the roadway would interfere with the best handling of parades.

By direction of the commission.

Very respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

Hon. CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
President Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., May 18, 1912.

COLONEL: In advising with your board, as requested in your letter of March 8, 1912, in regard to the plans for the reclamation and development of the Anacostia Flats, the Commission of Fine Arts has confined its recommendations mainly to three matters—the location of the proposed dam, the alignment of the river walls below the dam, and the general location of the islands and other shore lines above the dam.

Of the two locations for the dam and accompanying highway which have been considered by your board, the one on the line of Massachusetts Avenue was strongly recommended by this commission in preference to the one on the line of D Street for the following reasons:

Considered merely as highways, there can be no question as to the relative importance of the two lines. Massachusetts Avenue is one of the longest and widest thoroughfares in Washington. It is already laid out on the east side of the Anacostia, and needs only the filling of the gap caused by the river; whereas D Street is not only a less important thoroughfare as far as it goes, but has practically no continuation on the east side of the river. A bridge or causeway on the latter line would have to be provided with a wholly new approach on the east side, cutting through the blocks as now laid out, or else would turn abruptly into a series of comparatively narrow, short, and unimportant streets. It may be that there will at some time be justification for a thoroughfare across the Anacostia on some line between Massachusetts Avenue and the Benning Road bridge, but it is clear that the Massachusetts Avenue line is needed more, is needed sooner, and will always be the more important even if both are constructed.

A street on either line, if constructed in connection with the proposed dam, would have to be provided with a series of culverts over the spillway, a drawbridge in connection with the lock, and bridges over the Philadelphia, Baltimore & Washington and Baltimore & Ohio Railroads, together with the necessary approaches thereto in embankment. Without attempting to consider in detail the engineering differences between the two locations, it would appear that there is no decided preponderance for the D Street location on the score of economy in constructing the dam and highway; probably the reverse. In case only the construction necessary for reclaiming the flats were undertaken and the opening of the highway were postponed, the initial cost would be materially less on the Massachusetts Avenue line. Of course, either street can be opened more economically as a causeway on top of the dam than as an independent construction.

But apart from the practical advantages of first opening the more important highway, the location of the dam on the line of Massachusetts Avenue is decidedly preferable on æsthetic grounds.

Because of its importance as a thoroughfare the bridge or embankment by which Massachusetts Avenue crosses the Anacostia will afford a viewpoint of exceptional value overlooking the valley no matter where the dam is placed. Fortunately the general direction of the view, right up the largest stretch of water in the proposed

park and directly between the hills that flank the valley, is almost exactly normal to the line of the avenue. Moreover, the limited distance between the high bank on the west and the railroad embankment will result in a higher and more commanding elevation for the roadway of Massachusetts Avenue than would be reasonable on the D Street line. Under the circumstances, if the dam should be placed on the D Street line, there would be a long stretch of stone-walled tidal channel in the foreground of this view and the strong line of the dam, separating the two types of landscape, would cut diagonally across the view in a very unfortunate manner. From any point of view the division separating the broad lake landscape from that of the walled tidal channel would appear more natural, artistically stronger, and more in harmony with other topographical features of the valley if placed at Massachusetts Avenue than anywhere north of that point, because the western shore there forms a promontory and at the same time the embankment of the railroad, advancing from the low eastern shore, constricts the breadth of the valley on the opposite side.

In regard to the shore lines above the dam the advice of this commission, embodied on the plan, has related to securing agreeable vistas and to providing a large extent of continuously sheltered channels for canoeing in the lee of the islands.

In regard to the sea walls our suggestions, also embodied in the plan, have related merely to details of alignment.

It is the opinion of the Commission of Fine Arts that the execution of the improvement as set forth by your board, properly developed in detail, will give to Washington a park of exceptional beauty and value.

By direction of the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

Lieut. Col. W. C. LANGFITT
Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army,
Senior Member Board of Engineer Officers on the
Reclamation and Development of the Anacostia River and Flats.

REPORTS AS TO WORKS OF ART LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

THE SITE FOR THE INDIAN MEMORIAL IN NEW YORK HARBOR.

NEW YORK CITY, *April 27, 1912.*

DEAR DR. DIXON: At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on December 15, 1911, the following members were appointed a subcommittee to consider all questions that may be brought up in connection with the design of the memorial to the North American Indian, provided for in the act of Congress approved December 8, 1911: Mr. Thomas Hastings, chairman; Mr. Daniel C. French, Mr. Cass Gilbert. The act stated that the memorial may be erected on a Government reservation in the harbor of New York on a site to be selected by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy.

Report of Commission of Fine Arts

In order to secure data upon which the selection of a site by the two Secretaries might be based, you have requested the committee appointed by the Commission of Fine Arts to look over the possible sites and make a report upon the subject.

In accordance with your request, we beg leave, therefore, to report that, after a thorough examination of sites in New York Harbor, the committee has unanimously decided to recommend as a site for the proposed memorial the unused portion of the northern section of old Fort Tompkins, at Fort Wadsworth. We are thoroughly convinced that this site (which we learn from the engineering authorities in charge of the waters of New York Harbor is available because of its nonuse by the Government) furnishes the most artistic and appropriate location for such a memorial. The rise of ground, the relation to the old forts and to the landscape, and the possibility of the memorial being seen by incoming and outgoing ships from the Battery to Sandy Hook, and far into the interior of New Jersey and the surrounding waters, make it an ideal location. The report of our subcommittee has been unanimously approved by the entire Commission of Fine Arts. I might say also that at a joint meeting held a year ago of the Federal Fine Arts Commission and the Municipal Art Commission of New York the available sites in the harbor were thoroughly canvassed, and it was their unanimous opinion that this site now agreed upon furnished, without exception, the most effective and appropriate location.

We hope, therefore, that this consensus of opinion may meet with final approval.

Yours, very truly,

THOMAS HASTINGS,
Chairman of the Committee.

Dr. JOSEPH KOSSUTH DIXON,
Care Educational Bureau, The Wanamaker Stores, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE COMMODORE PERRY MEMORIAL AT PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
Washington, D. C., January 26, 1912.

GENTLEMEN: Under the terms of the program of competition for the Perry memorial we beg to advise you as follows:

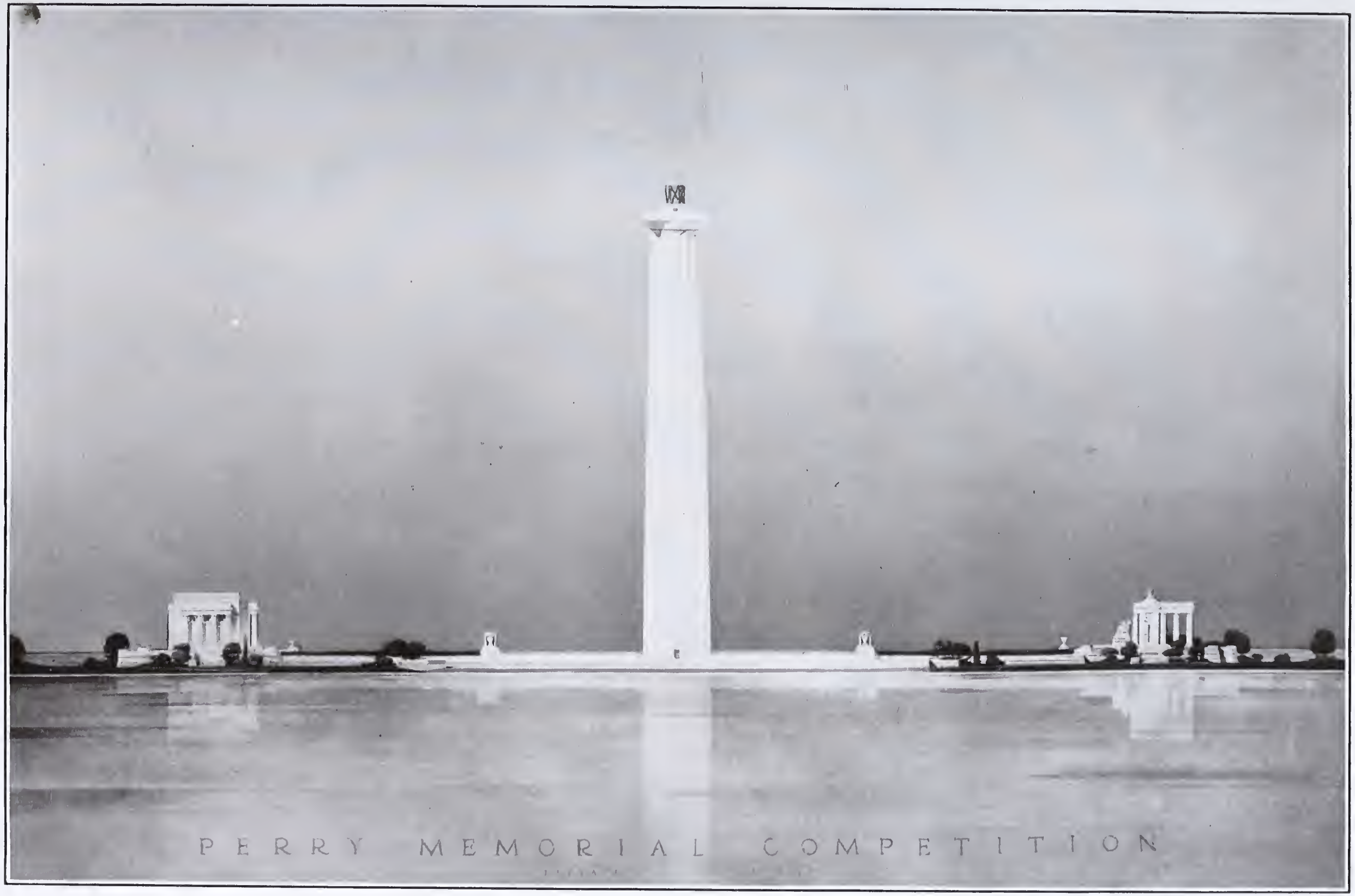
We select design No. 5 as presenting the most satisfactory solution of the problem and we recommend that its author be appointed as architect.

In making this selection we heartily commend the design for its great beauty and for its significant appropriateness as the memorial of both a victory in battle and a century of peace and friendship between two nations. The design indicates that its author is thoroughly trained and has the skill and capacity to execute successfully the work to be intrusted to him.

For the first premium we name design No. 17, which more nearly approaches the excellence of design No. 5 than does any other in the competition. For the second and third premiums we name, respectively, designs Nos. 34 and 54.

We hereby certify that designs Nos. 5, 17, 34, and 54 comply with the mandatory requirements of the program.

We have not found it necessary to ascertain whether each of the remaining designs complies with all these requirements, but we certify that two designs, namely, Nos. 1 and 21, have violated mandatory requirements. Even if designs Nos. 1 and 21



PERRY MEMORIAL COMPETITION.

The accepted desigh for the Perry Memorial, to be erected at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, by Mr. J. H. Freedlander and Mr. A. D. Seymour, Jr., 244 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

PERRY MEMORIAL COMPETITION.

Design by Mr. James Gamble Rogers, 11 East Twenty-fourth Street, New York City, awarded first premium.

PERRY MEMORIAL COMPETITION.

Design by Mr. Paul Cret, 1530 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., awarded second premium.

PERRY MEMORIAL COMPETITION.

Designed by Messrs. Dillon, McLellan, and Beadel, 1123 Broadway, New York City, awarded third premium.

had not violated these requirements it would have made no difference in our advice to you because neither of them approaches the standard of those considered for award.

The number of designs submitted and the serious study and effort proven by the variety of these designs and the quality of the technical execution of the drawings indicate a widespread interest in the competition among the most capable architects in the country.

By direction of the Commission of Fine Arts.

Respectfully,

SPENCER COSBY, Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary.

The Building Committee of the Interstate Board of the Perry's Victory Centennial Commissioners.

ACT OF CONGRESS ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.

AN ACT Establishing a Commission of Fine Arts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a permanent Commission of Fine Arts is hereby created to be composed of seven well-qualified judges of the fine arts, who shall be appointed by the President, and shall serve for a period of four years each, and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The President shall have authority to fill all vacancies. It shall be the duty of such commission to advise upon the location of statues, fountains, and monuments in the public squares, streets, and parks in the District of Columbia, and upon the selection of models for statues, fountains, and monuments erected under the authority of the United States and upon the selection of artists for the execution of the same. It shall be the duty of the officers charged by law to determine such questions in each case to call for such advice. The foregoing provisions of this Act shall not apply to the Capitol building of the United States and the building of the Library of Congress. The Commission shall also advise generally upon questions of art when required to do so by the President, or by any committee of either House of Congress. Said Commission shall have a secretary and such other assistance as the Commission may authorize, and the members of the Commission shall each be paid actual expenses in going to and returning from Washington to attend the meetings of said commission and while attending the same.

SEC. 2. That to meet the expenses made necessary by this Act an expenditure of not exceeding ten thousand dollars a year is hereby authorized.

Approved, May 17, 1910.

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